

The monthly A*C*E

Serving the Free Radio community since 1982
ANARC member 1983 - 2005

July 2005



from the desk of the Managing Editor

Ye Olde Editor: ACEHdq@localnet.com
or: (585) 365-8870 (not collect)

Let's face it; it's a quiet time of year for our hobby. Not quiet on the bands (there's plenty of static crashes and noise), but most people have other things to do that require them to be away from the radio(s) more at this time of the year. It's a good time to (oh, here he goes again!) repair and upgrade antenna systems and Ground connections, however, so you can realize the improvements come next fall and winter. It's already rather humid here, and the gnats and deer flies are a righteous pain. (Why do the gnats try to fly up my nostrils or into my eyes?) However, the time to fix things up is not during a blizzard - it's now.

Clandestine editor Vincent Havrilko is about halfway thru his tour in Iraq and should rejoin these pages in October with some interesting info on the radio scene in the Middle East.

That's about all the news that fits. And to quote the San Francisco Metromedia station (the old KSAN of years ago), "if you don't like the news, go out and make some of your own!" Onward...

FRN THE FREE RADIO NETWORK

"Pirate Radio Invades the World Wide Web!"



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- ✓ The ACE
- ✓ Chat
- ✓ News
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DiaLogs

July 2005

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(Next deadline for submissions: 18th July, 2005)

Format of a log entry:

Date Heard / Time Heard (in UTC) / Frequency (in kHz) / Mode / Details of Transmission

Modes:

A = AM F = FM L = Lower Sideband U = Upper Sideband

Reporting a signal's quality:

The simplest way of doing this is to judge the signal as being "Poor", "Fair" or "Good" and reporting it as such.

If you're one of them highfalutin' types with radios that are smarter'n your dawg, you probably use the SIO system

S = Signal (strength) I = Interference O = Overall (quality)

- S, I and O are all rated between 0 and 5, 0 being worst, 5 being best. (As I recall, there were written tables for these values but I haven't seen one in a very long time. If you have the details somewhere, send 'em along to me!)

LATE LOGS

None.

FROM ACROSS THE POND

Mystery Radio (Unknown)

- 05/29/05, 0229-0236, 6220A - ID, mx. (WS-TN Poor)
- 06/05/05, 0124, 6220A - ID, mx. (WS-TN Fair)
- 06/19/05, 0256-0320, 6220A - mx - Pop/Dance. Occasional "Mystery Radio" IDs. No talking, just continuous music. (RD-PA Fair)

NORTH/SOUTH AMERICAN LOGGINGS

America Will Break/AWB Radio (Unknown)

- 05/23/05, 0004-0022*, 6925U - Apparent new stn w/ a long talk by OM ancr. His theme was that immigrants are ruining the United States. "Nations are stable, but empires are unstable." Long lists of complaints about Arabic immigrants and Mexican immigrants. "When are the politicians going to wake up?" All of the trouble from the immigrants was cited as the blame for the large losses of manufacturing jobs in the USA lately. The entire prgm was a political talk, from an ultra right wing populism philosophy. Gave no addr. (GZ-OH 242)
- 06/05/05, 2346-2352, 6950U - Talk about illegal immigration, said Los Angeles is no longer an American city, mentioned Roman Empire and Vandals, (WS-TN Fair) (Note: AWB is obviously run by a guy who likes his Harry Turtledove stories.... Lee)

Ground Zero Radio (Elkhorn/gzrsw@usa.net)

- 05/22/05, 0110-0144, 6925A - mx - Rock. Some static, QSL via box 69, Elkhorn NE 68022(?), no email address given. (WH-IL Fair)

- 05/22/05, 0310-0330*, 6025A - mx - Rock. Very weak signal and poor copy of the prgm. Two definite ID's and the Elkhorn addr copied, however. (GZ-OH Poor)

Pirate Radio Boston (pirateradioboston@yahoo.com)

- 05/28/05, 2350, 6925A - PRB with a great signal, same static crashes here as well... (BL-VT Good)
- 05/29/05, *0235-0303+, 6926A - mx - Rock, one song of which the ancr said was by a local Boston group. Signal gradually weakened until there was little or no copy by 0303. (GZ-OH 242)

Radio First Termer (None)

- 05/29/05, 0030-0144, 6900U - mx - Santana. Clips from VOA, Armed Forces Radio, Wolfman Jack, then First Termer program, (WS-TN Fair) (BL-VT Fair)

Radio Free Euphoria (WHYP Relay) (Belfast)

- 05/20/05, 0115-0136+, 6925A - mx - Rock. Several mentions of Marijuana. Weak signal and relatively poor copy, but three or four definite ID's hrd. (GZ-OH Fair)
- 05/21/05, 0130-0145+, 6925A - Captain Ganja playing "Copperhead Road", ID 0135, AD for "marijuana helper", etc. Repeat of the 15 May broadcast. (CL-MA Good)

Radio Mercury ()

- 05/30/05, 0009-0036, 6955A - mx - "Life Goes On" song, "Jazz Man" song, robotic voice IDs, (WS-TN Poor)

Sunshine/Grasscutter Radio (FRN/grasscutterrado@yahoo.com)

- 06/19/05, 0112-0154*, 6925U - Ancd as joint best by these two stns, with the usual Sunshine R. YL and the usual Grasscutter OM w/the ID's. Prgm of rock mx incl Sweet Jane by Lou Reed, Wall of Voodoo and other rock. Ancd as a Fathers Day special best. Ancd no addr during the joint best, but they say that both stns can be contacted via Grasscutter's e-mail addr (grasscutterrado@yahoo.com). (Zeller-OH 242) (WH-IL Fair)

Sycko Radio (None)

- 05/30/05, 0057-0100, 7500A - greeted Texas Pete, ID. (WS-TN Fair)

Take It Easy Radio (Merlin/takeiteasyradio@yahoo.com)

- 06/05/05, 0048, 6875U - greeted listeners including George Zeller. (WS-TN Good) 06/05/05, 0313-0328, 6925 USB, Memorial Day tribute to veterans, especially Vietnam vets, great signal. (WS-TN Good)
- 06/05/05, 0135, 6925U - mx - "Take It Easy", "James Dean", qsl via box 293, Merlin Ontario Canada, also email address given. (WH-IL Fair)
- 06/05/05, 0405, 6925U - mx - the Supremes, song "One" by 3 Dog Night, talk of Viet Nam, said rebroadcast of special program. (WH-IL Fair)
- 06/05/05, 0500-0518, ??? - mx - heavy metal covers of Dylans "Hard Rain", CCR's "Born On The Bayou", original "Soldier Boy", song "Moon River". (WH-IL Fair)
- 06/12/05, 0430-0435, 6925U - IDs. (WS-TN Poor)

The Crystal Ship (Belfast/tcsshorthwave@yahoo.com)

- 05/29/05, 0150, 6855A - Got the Poet but tough conditions, weird QRM and the usual static crashes..... (BL-VT Poor)
- ???, 0127-0132+, 6954A - Prgm began with an ID by "The Poet" and the Burt the Turtle "Duck and Cover" song from the old atomic bomb propaganda movie. Famous clip of the President saying, "we begin bombing in five minutes." Otherwise some rock mx. I went up to check out a rumored 7545 kHz parallel, which was not audible here. When I went back to 5954.2, the stn was gone. (GZ-OH 242)

The Voice of Laryngitis (None)

- 05/29/05, *2315-2338*, 6925A - w/on w/Farty the Seal barking to the tune of "Smoke on the Water." Usual slogan of "the best damn radio station you'll ever hear." Most of the show was an old "pirate busters" sketch w/sirens. Quite weak level, and thus poor copy, but the ID was definite. (GZ-OH 141)

Undercover Radio (Merlin/undercoverradio@mail.com)

- 05/28/05, *0102-0133* *0137-0232*, 6925U - Dr. Benway w/mostly rock, but also some middle eastern Arabic vocals as well. Noises from Mars at times. Usual slogan of "broadcasting from the middle of nowhere." Second best was largely about relaxation, w/Dr. Benway complaining abt technical difficulties, which I did not notice at my end. Said that his prgming is also streamed on the internet, but I did not catch the URL for that. Merlin addr. (GZ-OH 242) (BL-VT Fair)
- 06/12/05, 0010, 6925U - Much static, Jethro Tull song "Aqualung", song "Come and get it" by another British group. qsl via <mailto:undercoverradio@mail.com> (WH-IL Fair)
- 06/12/05, 0146-0149+, 6925 USB, Coldplay mx, great signal, some static, excellent audio for ssb with some upper bass notes, rock/pop music, song "Hotel California" done live in concert. sed: "don't let them see us don't let them know what we are doing". (WS-TN Good) (WH-IL Good)
- 06/12/05, 0413, 6925 USB, "Money" song by Pink Floyd, great signal (WS-TN Good).

WHGW (whgw6925@myway.com)

- 05/22/05, 2212-2214* 2248-2258*, 6925U - The first part of the prgm was a digital mode best, followed by some WHGW ID's in CW. This was followed by an old-time radio drama. At close, gave the usual whgw6925@myway.com e-mail addr for repts. (GZ-OH 242)

WMPR (FRN)

- 05/28/05, 0300, 6925U - The usual cool tunes. (BL-VT Good)
- 06/05/05, 0025, 6925A - Got end of best, sounded like religious chanting. (WH-IL Good)
- 06/05/05, 2328-0010*, 6925A - Not quite their usual dance party techno rock format. Most of the mx was played on a synthesizer this time. Clear WMPR ID's, but no addr as usual. (Zeller-OH 343)

Yosemite Sam (Unknown)

- 06/09/05, 2319-2337, 6925U - CKLW airchecks, announcements of "American Aircheck" show on CKTM Montreal, "Say Yer Prayers, varmint" by Yosemite Sam. (WS-TN Good)
- 06/20/05, 0052-0100*, 6925U - This one started w/some trumpets and instr mx, but later had some rock as well. Some of it was similar to the Dr. Who mx. Sed "Hey, you're a rabbit, I'm-a gonna drill you good!" from WB cartoons. This is probably a spoof. . No addr ancd. (WH-IL Good) (GZ-OH 242)

TENTATIVE/UNIDENTIFIED

UNID

- 05/19/05, 0115-0136+, 6654A - Very weak signal, with a detectable carrier, and occasional weak music audio. This one was supposed to be The Crystal Ship, but it put little or no signal into Cleveland. I copied no ID's. (GZ-OH 141)
- 05/28/05, 2306-2331*, 6925U - "Too Young Station". s/on w/Monty Python theme by brass band. Various rock mx, including some Beatles tunes. OM said "too young" repeatedly around 2317. After that, had a variety of animal noises and European sirens, mixed in with some classical mx. I never got a clear ID, but those repeated "too young" phrases came close to an ID. Was off the air for two minutes at 2307 and three minutes at 2314. (GZ-OH 242)
- 05/28/05, 2253, 6926U - Playing bits of movie/TV themes, static crashes here making it difficult. (BL-VT Fair)
- 05/28/05, 2338-2347, 6800U - "Behind Blue Eyes", off air. (WS-TN Good)
- 05/30/05, 0015, 6955A - Mechanical sounding voice, pop mx, very weak. (WH-IL Poor)
- 05/30/05, 0235, 6926A - Very weak, unsteady freq. (WH-IL Poor)
- 06/06/05, 2330-0000, 6925U - Soothing/strange mx, "Twin Peaks" theme song, etc. (WS-TN Fair)
- 06/07/05, 0030, 6925U - Strange music. (WH-IL Fair)
- 06/12/05, 2140-2249, 6925U - Airchecks for WLS, WSAI, CKLW, I heard an announcement as "Jay Smilkstein" and "You're listening to the international radio report." (WS-TN Fair)

- 06/13/05, 0057-0142*, 6928A - Prgm of various rock mx, mixed in w/occasional Twilight-Zone style instr mx. Classic rock by various artists incl the Who, KC and the Sunshine Band, Hendrix, etc. The only OM ancr only occasionally appeared, saying stuff like "Let's Go" and "This prgm reproduced by electrical transmission or tape recording." Those remarks were rare. Nothing even approached an ID or an addr during the best. Drifty VFO drifted up 700 Hz. (GZ-OH 242)
- 06/13/05, 0130, 6926A - Unsteady carrier freq varied slightly with beat of the music but audio modulation was am not fm, rap mx, "Twilight Zone" theme. (WH-IL Poor)

WGAR/WKNR?

- 06/19/05, 0240, 6925U - WGAR(?)WKNR(?)relay, recordings of either WGAR or WKNR, not sure which. (WH-IL Poor)

WHYP?

- 05/21/05, 0100, 6925A - Dance mx, good audio but much static. (WH-IL Fair)

MAIL DROPS

These are the relevant - for this month - addresses to which you should send your reports as appropriate (along with at least three first class stamps to handle mailing costs) if you're doing things by snail mail or if the station doesn't use email.

Don't forget that foreign drops need IRCs or dollar bills instead of US postage stamps.

Semi-foreign drops (read: Canadians) need cash or IRCs but might accept cowry shells, beads or small hand mirrors. Poutine is an accepted medium of exchange only within the province of Quebec.

Of course, if you really want to cover all the bases - get with it and spend the vast sum of \$49 bucks (after rebate) for a Web TV box - as time goes by, more and more of the QSL business is being transacted via email.

Belfast: Box 1, Belfast, NY 14711

Elkhorn: P.O. Box 69, Elkhorn, NE 68022

Merlin: Box 293, Merlin, Ontario NOP 1W0, CANADA

QSL CONTRIBUTORS/PLEASE

Rich D'Angelo, 2216 Burkey Drive, Wyomissing, PA 19619 (RD-PA)
 William Hassig, 102 North Russel Street, Mt. Prospect, IL 60056-2443 (WH-IL)
 Chris Lobdell, Box 146, Stoneham, MA 02180 (CL-MA)
 Brian Locke, Burlington, VT (BL-VT)
 Woody Smith, P.O. Box 52823, Knoxville, Tennessee 37950 (WS-TN)
 George Zeller, 3492 West 123rd Street, Cleveland, OH 44111 (GZ-OH)

TEN (and TWENTY) YEARS AFTER...

July 1985 ACE was 24 pages long. DiaLogs was 6 pages including 2 NAM MW, 23 NAM SW, one Euro (Dublin), and 9 uniDs from 22 reporters.

July 1995 ACE was 20 pages with an Action Radio QSL on the cover. DiaLogs was 4 pages featuring 16 NAM SW, 1 Foreign (Pirana), and 15 uniDs from about 6 contributors.

RAMBLINGS

Damn, six contributors this time around. Thanks guys, your logs are very much appreciated! Let's hope the number of contributors picks up next month.

Well, summertime once again. Love that heat, humidity, those biting bugs and the lightning crashes on the radio. What more could anyone want? Look on the bright side; only three months to reasonable weather and radio listening once more.

Haven't gotten much done on the HF front myself, of late. It's a bit too hot for extensive work outside and there's a fair bit of brush to be cut down before I can get at one of those nice tall trees to hang the DX Ultra back up again. What I did do to occupy myself was to buy a nice stainless steel discone and get that up on one end of the house feeding into a Stridsberg four way active multicoupler. Yup, been playing scanner geek. The new location is really good for VHF/UHF reception. One thing that strikes me (now that I can listen again without horrible QRM levels in the neighborhood) is that probably 90% of NH police departments are now all using digital transmission. Guess they don't want us to be able to know what they're doing without buying one of the more expensive APCO25 compatible scanners to listen to them with.

Been playing with some nice toys here, partly because of my occasional column in Monitoring Times. One of the tastier items was a WinRadio G303e external computer controlled DSP receiver. Looks like they did it right. It's a very nice item, performs well and is great for use in the field because they engineered it to run happily off of 12vdc. Go take a look at it on WinRadio's web site!

Okay, I'm tired, it's early in the morning and I have to get this column out for Krusty. Talk at ya next month!

PROPAGATION

What it be:

Okay, just like the sea, radio waves below a certain frequency display tide-like behavior that is dependent upon the time of day at your location and at the target location. (Arrr, me hearties - 'tis a most appropriate metaphor!) Listen for a given area at one time and you'll hear nothing. Listen, say, twelve hours later and you'll hear find you're looking for. That's a real simple description of a very complex subject.

The tables below can be looked upon as being like tide charts for a certain part of the world and a certain frequency. The higher the "tide" displayed, the better the radio path between the two points on the chart at that time on that frequency.

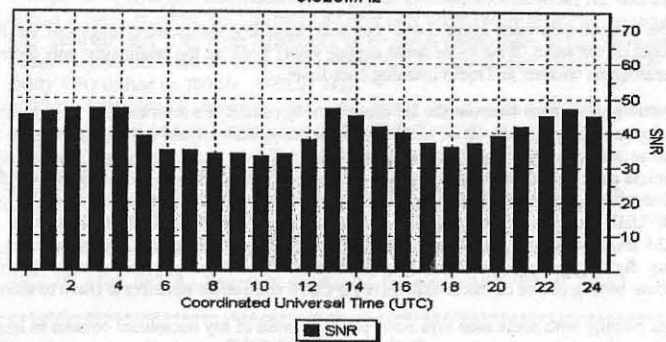
To try to provide useful propagation for the ACE readership I cover the most common Pirate frequencies month by month and I produce tables that roughly divide the USA into eastern, central and western sections and the propagation paths between them.

If you live, say, in Boston and want to try to listen for KMUD out in the western part of the country, you would check the table that says "Philadelphia, PA to Los Angeles, CA". This chart shows the radio "tides" between the two points that approximate where you are and where KMUD might be. Now look at the height of the bars - between 0200 and 0900 (that's UTC) looks to offer the best east-west listening path for you. Likewise, 1600-2100 might not be the best time to listen.

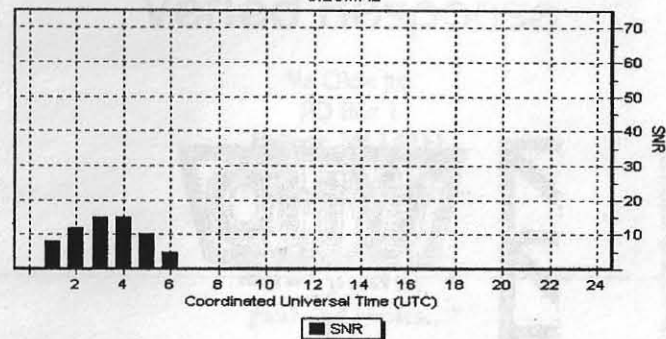
Caveat: These charts are rough guides only - radio propagation is even stranger than a Republican Senator who believes that poor folk need a break more than the obscenely wealthy do - you sometimes hear the damndest things come out of nowhere when you least expect it. Use them as a guide but don't let it stop you listening for a target when it says propagation is at its poorest - just use them as indicators of "best chances"!

If you want to do more serious reading about propagation the book "The New Shortwave Propagation Handbook" is a pretty good read on the subject and even us po' folks who can't afford RX-340s can understand it!

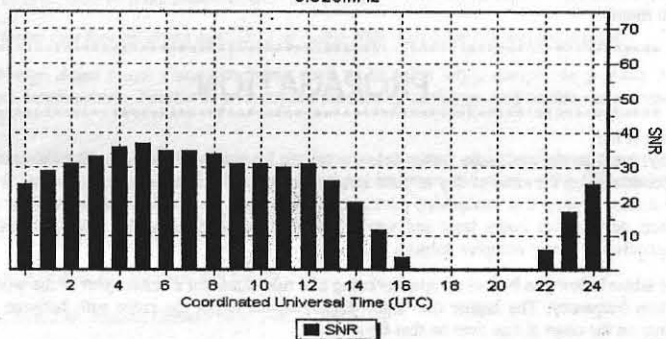
July 2005 SSN: 24 Philadelphia, PA to Kansas City, KS
6.925MHz



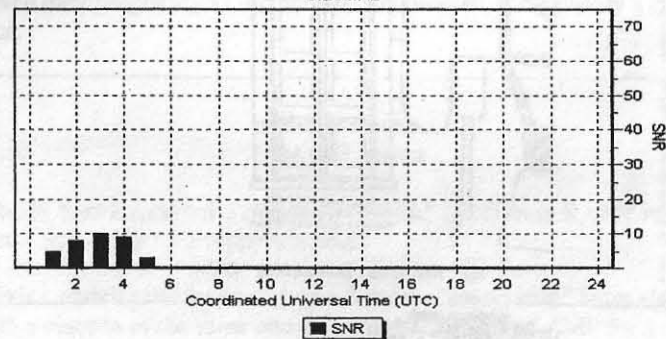
July 2005 SSN: 24 Philadelphia, PA to Amsterdam, Netherlands
6.20MHz



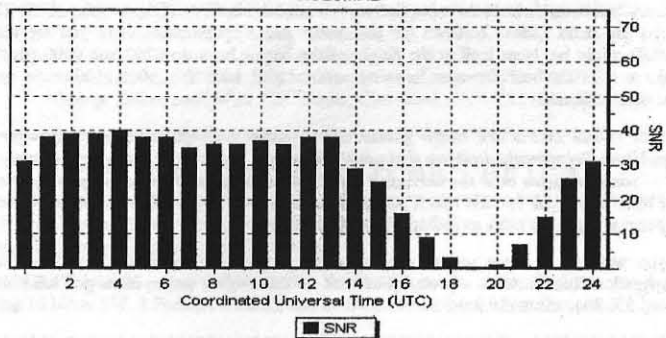
July 2005 SSN: 24 Philadelphia, PA to Los Angeles, CA
6.925MHz



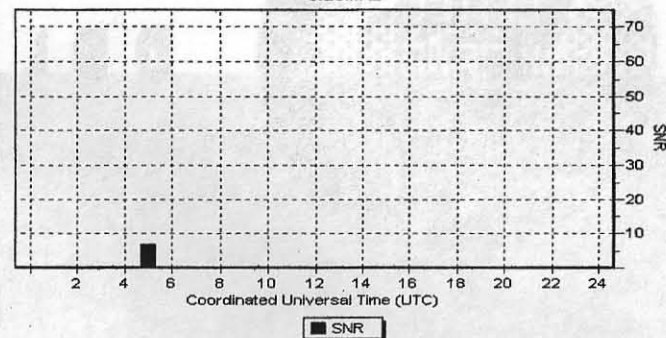
July 2005 SSN: 24 Kansas City, KS to Amsterdam, Netherlands
6.20MHz



July 2005 SSN: 24 Kansas City, KS to Los Angeles, CA
6.925MHz



July 2005 SSN: 24 Los Angeles, CA to Amsterdam, Netherlands
6.20MHz





QSL

Veried Response

Ye Olde Jta
PO Box 1
Belfast, NY 14711

verresp@localnet.com

July 2005

gnuz and gnotes...

The Crystal Ship offers email notification of their upcoming transmissions to those who request it. Just send an email to them at tcsshorthwave at yahoo dot com if you'd like to be added to their list. Given their propensity to use unusual frequencies, it's probably a good idea.

under the door... the QSL report

Woody Smith received a classic "lazy QSL" (#32) from KAMP in about one month for a report via BRS.

Chris Lobdell proudly pinned up a full data "comic strip" letter along with a cassette of the show and a personal letter from KAMP for a report in The ACE, and a full data yellow card and a bunch of paper stickers from Laser Hot Hits in about five weeks.

Let's see **your** report here next month! 73



the ASSOCIATION of CLANDESTINE radio ENTHUSIASTS

PO Box 1, Belfast, New York 14711-0001

The A*C*E is an association of individuals who find pirate, clandestine and covert communications an interesting part of their radio listening hobby. The primary existence of the club revolves around the publication of a monthly bulletin, The A*C*E. The bulletin reports on pirate, clandestine, covert and other unexplained broadcasts. Also, the readers are provided with other available material concerning motives, explanations and the theories behind these various broadcasts and broadcasters. The ACE as an organization, does not encourage, support or condone any illegal activity; we simply seek to understand the nature and reasoning behind such broadcasts. If your interests include listening to pirate radio stations, clandestine broadcasts and covert communications, The A*C*E is for you!!

All subscriptions, renewals, and queries regarding subscriptions should be sent to the above club address. Contributions for each editor should be sent to their own given addresses.

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U. S. & possessions	\$22.00	MUST BE PAID IN US FUNDS
Canada/Mexico	\$27.00	OR CHECK FROM US BANK
World Airmail	\$40.00	OR US/CANADIAN POSTAL ORDER

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